

Reports for Committee Members / University Campuses

Name of Institution: **UNC-TV**

Date: **September 10, 2009**

Contact: **Carol L. Woodyard**

1. Total Amount of Bond Dollars Allocated to this Campus?

\$66,561,180

2. Please list the projects currently underway, the estimated cost, and the status of each of these projects?

The push is on to complete the work necessitated by the transition to digital television. UNC-TV had 11 digital full services stations and 22 digital translators on the air on June 13, 2009 meeting the Congressional mandate for the DTV Transition.

UNC-TV's DTV transition not only includes the 11 full service stations and the construction of 22 low power translators, but also the construction of three digital fill-in translators, the construction of a 12th full service station to serve Waynesville and Canton in Haywood County, North Carolina, and the installation of a high definition video server system. We are looking at refitting and renovating over 34 sites that took over 50 years to initially build, and doing so as quickly as possible.

Work is being performed at all sites. In regards to the full service stations, several stations are operating at their fully maximized power levels. These stations include WUNC, WUND, WUNJ, and WUNM. Because they are operating at full power does not mean that the work is completed at those sites. There are backup systems, processing and monitoring equipment installations, and site cleanup and reorganization work that remains to be done.

The delegation from the Division of Purchasing and Contracts that allows General Administration to handle the DTV bids through the end of 2009 has helped in expediting the processing of bid and sole source items. This has helped things move much more quickly. The problems stated in a previous report regarding some sole source vendors resisting the Division of Purchasing and Contracts standard terms and conditions continues. Problems with vendors about the indemnity language continues as well. In nearly all cases these problems have been worked out but it required additional time to get things resolved.

Construction work was just completed on some UNC-TV bid contracts for antenna installations at WUNC, WUNL, and WUNM. The installation work for contracts related to transmitter modifications that involve the conversion of existing equipment for use at the WUNC, WUND, WUNE, WUNF, WUNG, WUNM, and

WUNP sites is well under way. The levels of completion vary widely from things being nearly completed at WUNC to work not having begun at WUNG. The work at WUNG was forcibly delayed on May 2, 2009 due to an electrical fire in the transmitter building that destroyed the electrical distribution system in the building. Luckily no one was injured and there was no major structural damage to the building. Repairs are scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2009. Then the DTV transition work can then begin at the site. Purchase contracts for work at the WUNK site have been delayed in order to keep them eligible for federal grants that have been applied for.

The \$1,600,000 Digital Translator Project that converts 22 analog translators to digital service is nearly complete. All 22 sites are now on the air with digital signals. UNC-TV also has permission to construct three DTV transmission sites to provide fill-in coverage for areas where the system's digital signal coverage does not match the analog signal coverage. These areas are Cherokee – Swain County, Northern Granville & Person Counties, and North / East Raleigh and Eastern Wake County. We are quickly moving forward on getting these sites constructed. Property leases must first be completed before equipment procurement and installation can occur. The completion of these sites is not expected to be until July 2010.

UNC-TV has also received FCC approval to construct a 12th full service DTV station to serve the Waynesville – Canton, Haywood County area of North Carolina. UNC-TV has also been awarded an NTIA / PTFP grant for approximately \$600,000 toward the construction of this site. The FCC construction deadline is January 30, 2011. The project will require an increase in the size of the leased property at the site. The leasing of the additional property has resulted in a greater than nine month delay in the project due to delays in the North Carolina State Property Office completing the necessary lease and site rights paperwork. This now appears to be moving forward and the State Property portion of the project will hopefully be completed in the next couple of months. The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety is also needing to upgrade facilities at this site as well as part of their Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders project (VIPER). We are coordinating efforts at this site with them in order to maximize the effective use of state funds by both organizations by not duplicating efforts.

UNC-TV has done everything in its power to move the DTV transition work along as quickly as possible. At the same time UNC-TV has done everything that it can to maximize the impact of the funding that it has been provided through the Higher Education Bond. To that end UNC-TV currently has active transmission projects that are receiving about \$2,845,000 in federal grant funding. UNC-TV has also filed other federal grant requests totaling about \$556,000 to help fund other transmission projects.

UNC-TV is in the process of implementing High Definition broadcast servers and related equipment in a combined project funded by an NTIA PTFP grant in the amount of \$353,699 and a CPB Digital Distribution Fund grant in the amount of

\$479,373 for which bond funds are being used as the matching amount. This project is approximately halfway complete, with the grant timelines ending in December of 2009 and related non-grant implementation of broadcast systems following the grant equipment portion continuing through first-quarter 2010. The broadcast servers, encoding systems, and tape archive are essential to continuous on-air operations.

3. Are the projects adequately timed to reflect cash-flow requirements? If not explain.

Yes.

4. List the projects that are substantially above or below budget and explain why. ("Substantial" is defined as plus or minus 10%.)

None

5. Overall, are the projects underway on this campus ahead, behind, or on schedule?

UNC-TV met the DTV Transition date of June 12, 2009 by having all 11 full service stations and 22 translators sites on the air with digital signals. UNC-TV on August 21, 2009 completed the construction deadline for work that had to be completed by October 18, 2009.

UNC-TV has filed with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) the appropriate paperwork for the digital television transition in a timely manner. Portions of the project have been slowed in order to maintain project eligibility for federal grant funding requests. Other portions of the project have been slowed due to problems with acquiring property rights and leases. There is also the delay at the WUNG site as a result of the building fire that occurred there on May 2, 2009.

6. What type of construction methods are being used (Single Prime, Multi-Prime, Construction Manager, Construction Manager at Risk)? Which ones have proven to be most effective and efficient?

The delegation from Purchasing and Contracts to allow UNC – General Administration Purchasing to administer request for bids and to be the awarding entity for those bids has helped expedite the bidding process. This delegation was originally created to be used only during the 2008 calendar year. It was extended until the end of 2009. It is hoped that the delegation can be again extended for at least another 6 months to July 2010.

7. If this campus is using CM at Risk for any of its projects, please describe your overall experiences using this method.

N/A.

8. Are the expenditures of the proceeds from the bonds issued under this act in compliance with the provisions of this act?

Yes.

9. Are there projects that have had a change in scope from its original intent? If any of these projects require General Assembly approval, please list these projects and the change.

N/A.

10. List projects currently underway that require additional funding, other than bond dollars.

None.

11. What are the sources for these funds? Are all of these funds on hand? If not, please explain why.

N/A.

12. What is the current HUB participation rate at this campus (please break down for Women, African-American, and Other)? Please list and explain efforts to reach HUB goals.

Black minority participation rate is 2.28%. Female minority participation rate is 5.93%. Total minority percentage is 8.21%. Effort to reach HUB goals are as follows: 1. Making contact with minority contractors listed on HUBSCO website directly by written communication by sending project information for bid solicitations on all construction projects, 2. Advertising in statewide or regional newspapers, 3. Listing construction projects at contractors clearing houses and 4. Listing construction projects on the CAPSTAT website.

The majority of projects at UNC-TV consist of purchases from a limited number of providers. This reduces our ability to increase our HUB participation.

13. Please describe any innovative practices being used to complete the Bond Program.

N/A.

14. What are the major challenges facing this University in completing the bond projects.

See #2

15. If this challenge was listed previously, what has been done since the last meeting/survey to remedy the situation?

N/A.

16. Please list projects that are scheduled to start within the next quarter.

Same as Item 2.

17. Additional Comments/Concerns.

None.